

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Frederic BESEME et al.

Group Art Unit: 1636

Application No.: 10/717,580

Examiner: L. MCGILLEM

Filed: November 21, 2003

Docket No.: 105045.01

For: ENDOGENETIC RETROVIRAL SEQUENCES, ASSOCIATED WITH
AUTOIMMUNE DISEASES OR WITH PREGNANCY DISORDERS

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

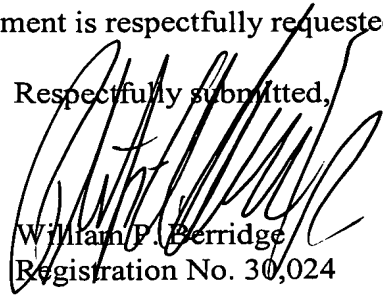
Sir:

In reply to the September 23, 2005, Restriction Requirement, Applicants provisionally elect **Group 11**, claims 1-10, 12-17, 20, 25-27, and 31-35, with traverse.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims 1-35 is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one Group of claims would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Thus, withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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WPB:PAC

Date: October 24, 2005

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